INTELLIGENCE

Committee will meet again tomorrow.

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 17 public bills, H.R. 1590–1616; 1 private bill, H.R. 1618; and 2 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 79 and H. Res. 148, were introduced.

Pages H2678-80

Reports Filed: One report was filed as follows:

H. Res. 149, providing for consideration of H.R. 1469, making emergency supplemental appropriations for recovery from natural disasters, and for overseas peacekeeping efforts, including those in Bosnia, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997 (H. Rept. 105–97).

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Stearns to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H2595

Emergency Supplemental Appropriations: By a yea-and-nay vote of 193 yeas to 229 nays, Roll No. 125, the House failed to agree to H. Res. 128, the rule to provide for consideration of H.R. 1469, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for FY 1997.

Pages H2600-09

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 148 electing Representative Hinojosa to the Committee on Small Business and Representative Rodriguez to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Pages H2609-10

Housing Authority and Responsibility Act: By a recorded vote of 293 ayes to 132 noes, Roll No. 127, the House passed H.R. 2, to repeal the United States Housing Act of 1937, deregulate the public housing program and the program for rental housing assistance for low-income families, and increase community control over such programs. The House completed debate on Wednesday, April 30 and considered amendments to the bill on May 1, May 6, May 7, May 8, and May 12.

Pages H2619-47

Rejected the Kennedy of Massachusetts motion to recommit H.R. 2 to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services with instructions to reconsider the bill for the purposes of improving the income targeting provisions of the bill by reserving more housing assistance for very low-income families of various incomes and eliminating provisions in the bill creating unnecessary bureaucracies.

Pages H2645-47

Agreed to the Committee Amendment in the nature of a substitute as amended. Page H2645

Rejected the Kennedy amendment in the nature of a substitute that sought to combine public housing programs into two grant programs; requires annual management plans from housing authorities; increases the HUD authority to take action against troubled housing authorities; targets housing assistance with 40 percent of units for families with incomes less than 30 percent of median income and 90 percent of units for families with incomes less than 60 percent of median income; targets 75 percent of tenant-based rental assistance to families with incomes less than 30 percent of median income; establishes minimum rents of between zero and 25 dollars; and requires housing authorities to encourage tenants to volunteer in their community (rejected by a recorded vote of 163 ayes to 261 noes, Roll No. 126).

The Clerk was authorized to correct section numbers, cross references, and punctuation, and to make such stylistic, clerical, technical, conforming, and other changes as may be necessary to reflect the actions of the House in amending the bill. Page H2647

On April 30, the House agreed to H. Res. 133, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill.

Pages H2035-38

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on page H2681.

Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H2614.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H2609, H2644–45, and H2646–47. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Committee Meetings

USDA—INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROCUREMENT PRACTICES

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Department Operations, Nutrition, and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing to review the information technology procurement practices of the USDA. Testimony was heard from Anne Thomson Reed, Chief Information Officer, USDA; and Joel Willemssen, Director, Information Resources Management Issues, GAO.

LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Alexis M. Herman, Secretary of Labor.

FINANCIAL MODERNIZATION

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Continued hearings on Financial Modernization, including H.R. 10, Financial Services Competitiveness Act of 1997. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Hearings continue May 21.

FINANCIAL SERVICES REFORM

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Finance and Hazardous Materials held a hearing on Financial Services Reform, focusing on Consolidation in the Brokerage Industry. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SAVINGS ARE VITAL TO EVERYONE'S RETIREMENT ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Ordered reported amended H.R. 1377, Savings Are Vital to Everyone's Retirement Act of 1997.

FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL DRUGS— NATIONAL GUARD SUPPORT

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice held a hearing on National Guard Support in the Fight Against Illegal Drugs. Testimony was heard from Brad Owen, Lt. Governor, State of Washington; Michael Bowers, Attorney General, State of Georgia; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE; ISSUANCE OF SUBPOENAS; COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Committee on House Oversight: Ordered reported S. Con. Res. 26, to permit the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a congressional ceremony honoring Mother Teresa.

Committee adopted a motion to authorize issuance of two subpoenas to the Immigration and Naturalization Service in connection with the Contested Election in the Forty-sixth District of California.

The Committee also considered other pending committee business.

CARIBBEAN: AN OVERVIEW

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held a hearing on the Caribbean: An Overview. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: John Hamilton, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Central America and the Caribbean; and Joseph Sullivan, Special Coordinator for Haiti; and public witnesses.

SECURITY AND FREEDOM THROUGH ENCRYPTION ACT; CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—PROHIBITING FLAG DESECRATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported the following measures: H.R. 695, amended, Security and Freedom Through Encryption (SAFE) Act; and H.J. Res. 54, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

APPREHENSION OF TAINTED MONEY ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law held a hearing on H.R. 1494, Apprehension of Tainted Money Act of 1997. Testimony was heard from, Robert S. Litt, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice; Lawrence M. Noble, General Counsel, FEC; and public witnesses.

JUDICIAL REFORM ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property held a hearing on H.R. 1252, Judicial Reform Act of 1997. Testimony was heard from Representatives Hyde, Bryant and Manzullo; Henry A. Politz, Chief Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit; Anne Williams, District Judge, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois; from the following officials of the State of California: Dan Lungren, Attorney General; and Richard Mountjoy, Senator; and public witnesses.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Rules: Granted by voice vote, an open rule providing 1 hour of debate on H.R. 1469, 1997 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Recovery from Natural Disasters, and for Overseas Peacekeeping Efforts, Including Those in Bosnia.